

**FILED**

**APR 18 2017**

Clerk, U.S. District Court  
District Of Montana  
Great Falls

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF MONTANA  
GREAT FALLS DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

vs.

CHRISTOPHER EMMANUEL  
MARSHALL HIGGINS,

Defendant.

Case No. CR-17-08-GF-BMM-JTJ

FINDINGS AND  
RECOMMENDATION  
CONCERNING PLEA

The Defendant, by consent, has appeared before the undersigned pursuant to Fed. R. Crim. P. 11 and has entered a plea of guilty to the charge of Assault Resulting In Serious Bodily Injury in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1153(a) and 113(a)(6), as set forth in the Indictment. After examining the Defendant under oath, I have made the following determinations:

1. That the Defendant is fully competent and capable of entering an informed and voluntary plea,
2. That the Defendant is aware of the nature of the charge against him and consequences of pleading guilty to the charge,
3. That the Defendant fully understands his constitutional rights, and the

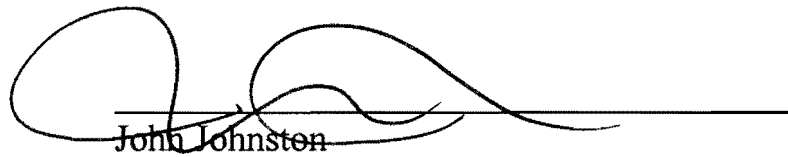
extent to which he is waiving those rights by pleading guilty, and

4. That the plea of guilty is a knowing and voluntary plea, supported by an independent basis in fact sufficient to prove each of the essential elements of the offense charged.

Therefore, I recommend that the Defendant be adjudged guilty of Count I of the Indictment and that sentence be imposed. A presentence report has been ordered.

**This report is forwarded with the recommendation that the Court defer a decision regarding acceptance until the Court has reviewed the presentence report.**

DATED this 18<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2017.



John Johnston  
United States Magistrate Judge